

Lara Chapman

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Nationalities: British/Australian

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A bit about me

Motivated, engaged, positive and friendly with a love for learning through doing.

Looking to apply my research and writing skills through creative, positive and hope-building projects focused around the climate crisis as part of a collaborative team.

Education

Design Academy Eindhoven, Design Curating and Writing MA, 2017-2019

Graduation project 'Through The Emoji Looking Glass' nominated for the Gijs Bakker Award for excellence in design research

Kingston University, London, Product and Furniture Design BA (Hons) 2014-2017

First Class Honours - Awarded an Outstanding Dissertation Award and Outstanding Final Project Award

Loughborough University, Art and Design Foundation, 2013-2014

Distinction

PLC Sydney, Australia, High School Certificate, 2004-2010

Grade of 97.6 (out of 100). Received a 'Premier's Award' for being in the top 10% of the State in all subjects

Related Employment

The Design Museum, London March 2021-Present

Assistant Curator

- Developed and delivered major exhibitions including: *Waste Age: What can design do?* (2021-2022), *Bethany Williams: Alternative Systems* (2022), *Yinka Ilori: Parables for Happiness* (upcoming) and *The Offbeat Sari* (upcoming)
- Wrote a range of texts including captions, subsection panels, press releases, interpretation plans, presentation and website copy, audit reports, timelines, catalogue texts, business plans etc. and cross-edited colleagues' texts adhering to the museum's style guidelines and accessibility standards
- Researched and suggested content for all exhibitions, organised calls with lenders and facilitated the loan, commissioning and licensing processes
- Took clear, accurate minutes at departmental meetings, in conversations with external lenders and with the Waste Age advisory panel of experts
- Created files structures for efficient sharing of documents and folders for each exhibition and our department
- Managed object lists with 500+ objects while supporting the delivery of shows to tight deadlines and budgets
- Self-initiated smaller displays in the museum and managed their delivery e.g. reading area in public space
- Gave confident, clear tours of the exhibitions in the gallery and digital presentations in person or online to a range of external stakeholders, internal colleagues, university students and the press
- Adapted Waste Age's structure and content for international touring venues, collaborating with their curators

Freelance design researcher, writer and curator Jun 2018-Present

I have written for a range of digital and printed publications such as Disegno, DAMN°, TLmag and Real Life; Delivered design installations and research projects at venues such as the V&A, The Stanley Picker Gallery and Dutch Design Week. See a selection of published works, projects and exhibitions on page 2

Consuma - The sustainable paper company, UK Jun 2019-2021

Freelance Trend Researcher and Copy-Writer

- Commissioned to write the company history book. Interviewed directors and range of executives, collated archive materials and appointed/worked with a graphic designer
- Conducted micro and macro trend research in the household goods, beauty and wellness sectors
- Formatted research into presentations suitable for briefing the marketing and product development teams
- Provided copy for new product names and descriptions based on clients needs
- Created an induction video based around corporate values and promotional videos for Instagram

Royal Academy of Art, The Hague (KABK) Feb 2018-2021

Freelance Design Research Assistant

- I worked with Dr Alice Twemlow (former head of my MA) to develop various projects/websites
- Researched and sourced content for her lectorate website around the theme 'Design and The Deep Future' and wrote succinct introductions to the selected projects and themes
- Uploaded and formatted content to CMS websites, maintaining consistency across the sites
- Contacted various artists, designers and writers to gain permission to republish their work
- Conducted, transcribed, edited and published interviews with designers, artists and researchers

TL Magazine, Brussels Jun 2018-Mar 2019

Web Editor

- Interviewed 60+ designers, artists and curators for the web magazine
- Authored and published (through Wordpress) 5 articles per week, aimed at creative professionals and the public in a variety of formats, and wrote and posted the related social media content
- Managed a flexible schedule that could accommodate re-prioritisation
- Copy-edited text from other writers and editors
- Liaised with various stakeholders including PR agencies, museums communication teams and artists

Internships

Disegno, London Feb 2020, Editorial Intern

The Design Museum, *Home Futures*, London Jun-Sept 2018, Curatorial Research Assistant

Social Label, Eindhoven Oct 2017, Exhibition Volunteer

Mentis Studios, Australia, *Don't Play with Your Food* Jun 2016, Exhibition Assistant

James Michael Shaw, London Aug-Oct 2015, Studio Assistant/Maker

Selection of Published Writing

Features/Essays:

Petrified Designers: Fictitious Narratives, Disegno Journal, 2022

When the Shit Has Hit the Fan: a reflection on toilet paper in a time of crisis, 'CriticALL' [book], Onomatopée, 2021

Consider "the" Dictionary, Bum Editions, Issue #1, 2020

Springtime Everywhere, Real Life, 2020

What Can We Learn From Ecolinguistics?, Footprint Magazine, 2021

Floodscapes, TLMag, Issue #36: Everything Is Landscape, 2021

Interviews/profiles:

Xandra van der Eijk: *Listening Closely*, DAMN^o Magazine, Issue #81: The Art of Protest, 2022

Public By Proxy: A roundtable conversation with the creators of A DIY Guide to Proxy Protest, Immerse, 2021

Shapes of ongoing fascination, shapes of ongoing dismay: Sean Rafferty's Nauru, Art Monthly Australia, 2021

The Nuances of Repair: Guy Keulemans, Design and the Deep Future website, KABK, 2020

Joanna Piotrowska: Choreographing Uncertainty, TLMag, Issue #33: The New Age of Humanism, 2020

Beads Labour and Sexy Feminism: Liza Lou, TLMag online, 2018

Case Studies:

How to Reduce Waste When Creating and Exhibition, TEO Journal, 2022

Materialising Change: Six innovators reimagining how and why we make textiles today, TLMag, Issue #35, 2021

Reviews & Observations: Object/Project/Books/Exhibitions:

Do We Have The Language to Describe The Climate Crisis?, Footprint Magazine, UK, 2021

Net Art Roulette: On Press Refresh, Running Dog, 2020

When Devices Go Bump in the Night: Screensaver Watching You, Running Dog, 2020

The Face Mask as Aromatic Design Experience, Disegno, Issue #26, 2020

If a Tree Falls and a Designer Designs, Residency for the People, Onomatopée, 2020

Turning Australian Design Upside Down One Story at A Time, TLMag Issue #30, 2018

Studio Drift's Coded Nature Exhibiton, The Design Writer, 2018

About a System, Canary (a just-in-time publication produced by DC&W department, DAE, 2017)

Creative writing:

Lost and Found, published in the Ordinary Muses Zine, Onomatopée, 2019

Waste Age: What Can Design Do?, The Design Museum, 2021 [Assistant curator]

Bethany Williams: Alternative Systems, The Design Museum, 2021 [Assistant curator]

The Weirder Web, Embassy Of Internet, 2020 [Researcher in residence and exhibitor], 2020

In Case of Fire, an online and window-based exhibition commissioned by Ryde Arts, 2020 [co-curator]

The Hands of Time at the V&A January Late, 2020 [Exhibitor, commissioned to create AR installation]

Through the Emoji Looking Glass, at DAE Graduation Show, Dutch Design Week 2019

An Archaeology of Aviation Superpowers at JUNK: All that is Solid Melts to Trash - Van Abbe Museum, Design Academy Eindhoven & Biz Eindhoven [commissioned research project], 2019

Ordinary Uncanny, Embassy of Data, Dutch Design Week, 2018 [On-site live research through games]

Overcoming Othering [Exhibition text writer/editor and exhibitor]

Selection of Exhibitions: Curating & Research Projects

Guest Lecturer - Climate Studio, UCL, May 2022

Keynote Speaker - DAE Research Festival, March 2022

Panellist - Empathic Research Panel, October 2019

Podcast Guest - The Knowledge Circle, October 2019

Workshop Co-Host - Onomatopée Gallery, May 2019

Panellist - Dutch Institute for Sound and Vision, Hosted by OpenSet, 2018

Talks, panels & workshops:

Skills

Diverse writing formats, styles and editing

Confident in presenting ideas and final outcomes of project

Organising and structuring files and schedules

Developing novel research methods to compliment traditional research methods

Highly proficient in Photoshop, InDesign, Premier Pro, Google Docs, Excel and CMS websites

Other interests

Sewing clothes, cooking new recipes, reading long-form essays, fiction and non-fiction, bouldering, skiing, exploring other countries

Referees

Eleanor Watson - Curator and line manager
The Design Museum
eleanor.rose.watson@gmail.com
+ 44 (0) 7426 216 961

Dr Alice Twemlow - Design educator, critic, writer and former Head of DC&W MA DAE
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